

POLICY MEMO #D-2003-01 (Revised) ANSI-CERTIFIED TESTING ORGANIZATION PRODUCT LISTINGS IN LIEU OF TEST REPORTS

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for Department of Health Services (Department) acceptance of product listings in lieu of test data from ANSI-certified testing organizations for residential water treatment device certifications.

Background

This policy was originally issued April 14, 2003. After several months of implementing this policy, we believed that clarification was required. Therefore, this revised policy was issued on December 8, 2003.

The California Health and Safety Code Section 116835(b) allows the Department to accept a water treatment device certification issued by an independent testing organization if the Department determines that certification program meets the requirements of Article 3, "Water Treatment Devices". This policy is being implemented due to the fact that Department staff resources for reviewing certification application materials are very limited and there are now three independent testing organizations certified by ANSI for product testing and listing of residential water treatment devices.

Policy

Under the authority of H&SC Section 116835(b), the Department will accept, for residential water treatment device certifications, certain product listings by an ANSI-certified product listing organization in lieu of test data. Acceptable product listings are limited to ANSI/NSF Standards 44, 53, and 62, as specified in Section 60435 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22. A product listing submitted in lieu of test data must be for the exact model designation as identified on the manufacturer's application for certification. All other material required with an application for certification (e.g., product label, product data sheet, packaging and promotional materials, drawings and parts list, etc.) must still be submitted.

Product listings from an ANSI-certified product listing organization may be submitted as evidence of the materials review and extraction testing in lieu of actual test reports.

The Department reserves the right to call in test reports during any application review process to verify a product listing.

The following clarifies specific situations with respect to this policy.

Witness testing: The Department is not accepting witness testing at this time. We do not believe that ANSI approval of witness testing procedures provides the same level of test data quality assurance as independent laboratory testing. Product listings submitted in lieu of test data under this policy should not be based on witness testing.

Data Transfer: Certain data transfers are covered by this policy. The Department will accept a product listing based on data transfer for ANSI/NSF Standard 53 for adsorption and mechanical reduction claims if the ANSI-certified product listing organization has previously received Department approval pursuant to CCR Section 60455 for the data transfer procedures and the procedures are on file with the Department.

Reverse Osmosis (RO): Reverse osmosis system data transfers are not covered by this policy. There are certain circumstances in which the Department accepts RO data transfers under CCR Section 60455 and other circumstances where direct testing is required. Because many reverse osmosis product listings are based on a combination of data transfer and direct testing, the Department believes it is critical to review all test reports used to support the contaminant reduction claims to ensure any data transfer has been done properly and that appropriate direct testing has been conducted.

Ultraviolet (UV) Light Disinfection: UV disinfection systems are not covered by this policy. All UV disinfection claims must be verified by direct testing by Department approved independent testing labs; and testing must be performed according to a Department approved test protocol. Test reports must be submitted with the application for certification.

Water Softeners: Water softeners are covered by this policy. However, in addition to the product listing, a copy of the softener testing summary must be submitted (includes rated capacities, rated service flow and efficiency ratings).

This policy was sent to Water Treatment Device Manufacturers and Testing Labs by the Department under the program chiefs' signature, David Spath, on December 8, 2003.